

LOUGHBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, for the Year Ending 31st December, 1904.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my annual report on the health of your district during the year 1904.

Area in Statute Acres	...	20,344
Population, 1901	...	4387
Number of Inhabited Houses		1036
Average number of persons per house		4.2

BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered was 91, which is 22 less than last year, and 15 below the average of the last ten years. This is an annual birth-rate of 20.7 per thousand of the population, which is very low.

MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths registered as occurring in the district was 51, which is 7 less than last year, and 16 below the average of the last ten years, to this must be added two deaths of residents which occurred in public institutions outside the district, and one subtracted being the death of a non-resident which occurred at the Isolation Hospital within the district. In this manner we get the corrected mortality, which is 52, and is equal to an annual mortality of 11.8 per thousand of the population, which is exceptionally low.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths of infants under one year was 7, which is 2 less than last year, and 5 below the average of the last ten years. There was no infant mortality from zymotic diseases. This continued low infant mortality is very gratifying. It is at the rate of 7.7 per 1000 births registered.

ZYMOTIC MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths from zymotic diseases was 1, which was from scarlet fever at Thorpe Acre. This is 5 less than last year, and 4 below the average of the last ten years, and is a zymotic mortality of 0.2 of the population, which is satisfactorily low.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases notified was 17, which is 24 less than last year, and 13 below the average of the last ten years. The cases were as follows:

Small Pox	...	1
Erysipelas	..	4
Scarlet Fever	..	12

SMALL POX.

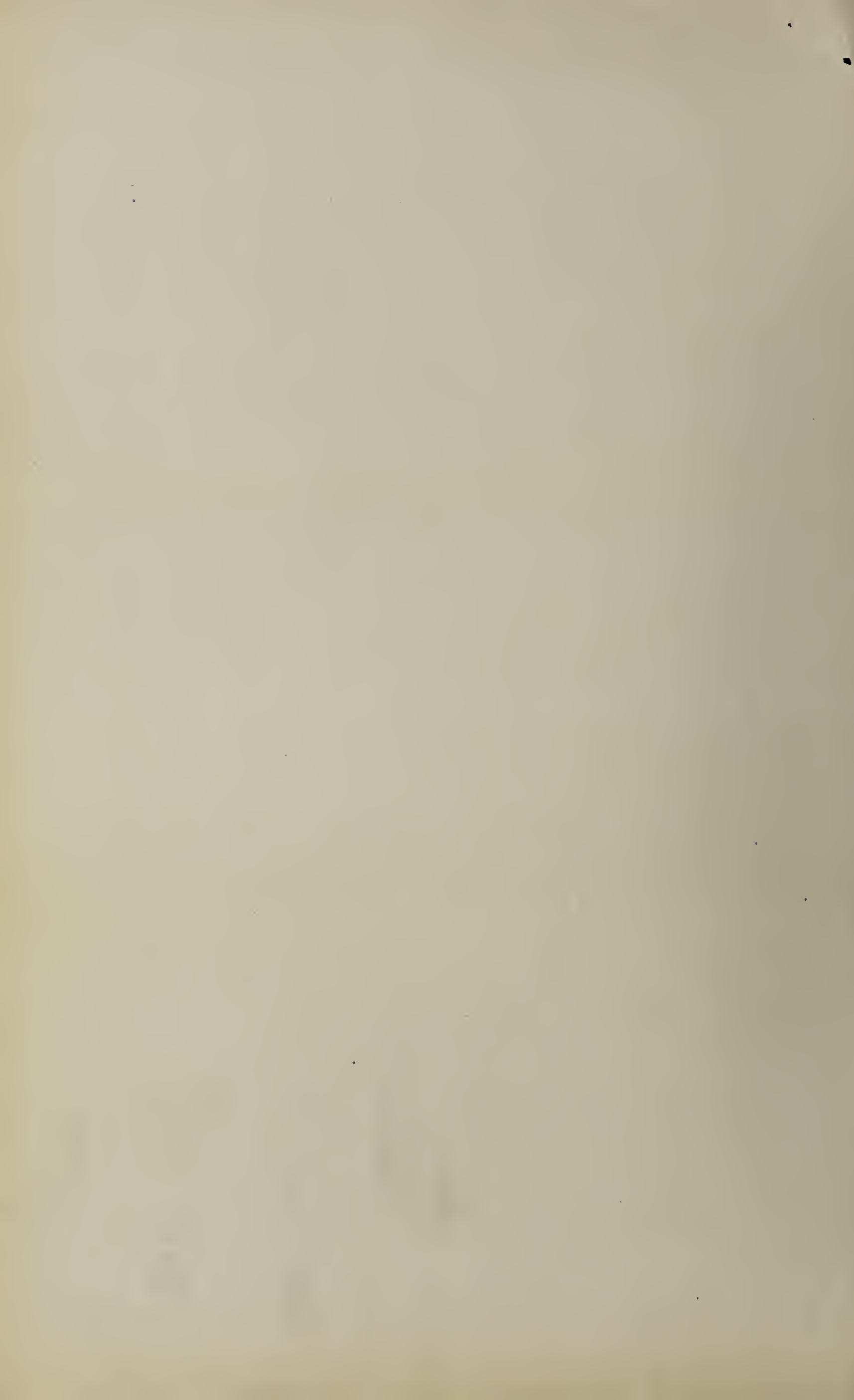
One case of this disease occurred at Hoton in February. It was promptly notified and as promptly removed to the Isolation Hospital at Syston. The premises were thoroughly disinfected and all contacts vaccinated and re-vaccinated. There was no spread. The case was imported from the Loughborough Borough.

ERYSIPELAS.

Four cases of this disease were notified, one at Hathern, two at Long Whatton, and one at Beiton. They were of no significance from a sanitary point of view.

SCARLET FEVER.

Twelve cases of this disease were notified during the year. Seven occurred at Thorpe Acre, of whom one died. This outbreak was an extension from Loughborough Borough. Four occurred at Long Whatton and one at Hathern. These latter were mostly of a mild character, and were not associated with local insanitary conditions.



WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply to the village of Nanpanton and to Prestwold Hall is from Loughborough Waterworks, and it has been uniformly good in quality and abundant in quantity throughout the year. For the remainder of the district the supply is derived from wells, and as the quality of well water is constantly liable to change on account of contamination by soakage of liquid filth from the surface of the adjacent ground, movement of sub-soil water, the matter has received constant attention during the year. Twenty-four samples of drinking water were submitted to me by your Inspector for analysis, and in 15 instances the water was so impure as to justify me in condemning it as unfit for drinking. In each of these instances orders were made either to close the well or cleanse it and remove causes of contamination. These orders were obeyed in every instance without the necessity of having recourse to legal proceedings.

DRAINAGE.

The village of Wymeswold is provided with a regular system of sewage, with a flushing reservoir at one end, and a small sewage farm at the other. This latter has discharged a fairly good effluent during the year. Throughout the remainder of the district, liquid house refuse, slop water, etc., runs off by the natural channels of drainage, which in most instances are long tortuous dykes leading to the nearest river or brook. Most of the suspended matter is deposited from the sewage in these dykes, which are periodically cleansed by order of the Council, so that there is very little pollution of rivers from any of the villages constituting the district. During the year a great improvement has been made in the drainage of the village of Burton-on-the-Wolds by the owners of property there, principally the Duke of Somerset, and also by Mr. Hussey Packe, who kindly allowed a portion of his land on a lower level than the village to be used as a filtration medium.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

This is accomplished in the old-fashioned manner by the common midden and privy arrangement, and it has answered fairly satisfactorily. Cases of over-full and leaky middens occasionally occur, but they are soon detected by the inspector, who takes steps to prevent a recurrence of the nuisance.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

333 Inspections were made to Factories, Work shops, and Home-workers premises, in most instances the regulations were complied with, want of cleanliness was discovered and remedied in six instances, and in one instance insufficient closet accommodation was remedied.

In two instances notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories of matters remediable under the Public Health Acts, in each case steps were taken to abate the nuisance. In two instances home work was suspended in consequence of infectious disease, and in one instance on account of the unwholesome state of the house.

From the report of the Inspector of Nuisances appended hereto will be seen details of the amount of Sanitary work accomplished during the year.

Appended also are tabulated statistics as to population, births and mortality for the present and previous ten years, also of infectious diseases notified during the year, and of deaths classified according to diseases, ages and localities, copies of which as well as of this report, when printed, it will be necessary to send to the Leicestershire County Council, the Home Office, and the Local Government Board.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS CORCORAN,
Medical Officer of Health

Loughborough,
20th February, 1905.

STATISTICS.

Mortality from subjoined cases: Scarlet Fever 1, Diarrhoea 1, Phthisis 2, other Tubercular Diseases 3, Cancer 4, Bronchitis 2, Alcoholism 1, Heart Diseases 8, Accidents 1, all other causes 29. Total 52.

Parish.	Births Registered.	Average last 10 years.	Deaths Registered.	Average last 10 years.
Belton ..	9	15	10	9
Burton-on-the-Wolds ..	8	8	4	4
Charley...	3	3	1	2
Garendon ..	2	—	—	—
Hathern ..	32	25	19	19
Hoton ..	5	7	1	4
Long Whatton..	8	12	8	9
Nanpantan ..	7	6	1	2
Prestwold and Cotes...	2	2	—	2
Thorpe Acre and Dishley ..	5	6	1	4
Woodthorpe ..	—	1	—	—
Wymeswold ..	10	20	7	12
Total Births registered	...	...	...	91
Average last 10 years	...	...	...	106
Rate per 1000 for last year...	...	...	...	20.7
Average last 10 years	...	...	...	23.1
Total Deaths registered	...	...	...	52
Average last 10 years	...	...	...	70
Rate per 1000 for last year...	...	...	...	11.8
Average last 10 years	...	...	...	15.4

To the Chairman and Members of the Loughboro' Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

During the past year I have made 1074 inspections in the various parishes of the Loughborough Rural District.

Houses disinfected after infectious diseases ..	10
Lots of clothing disinfected ..	10
Lots of clothing destroyed ...	1
Samples of water taken for analysis..	24
Wells cleansed by order of the Council ..	13
Wells closed by order of the Council ..	1
New wells sunk and fresh water supply provided	1
New privies or closets built ..	9
Middens cleansed ...	32
Dirty houses cleansed ..	2
Houses made habitable ..	2
Accumulations of filth removed ..	8
Drains taken up and cleansed by owners ..	11
New drains laid by order of the Council ..	5

The sewerage dykes in the district have been cleansed as required. The Cowsheds and Dairies of the Purveyors of Milk I have visited periodically and found them in a fair state of cleanliness. Nine fresh dairies have been registered during the year. I have made periodical visits to the Factories, Workshops and Houses of outworkers, and with six exceptions (in which cases I ordered them to be lime-washed) found them clean. Additional closet accommodation was found necessary for one workshop. Work was suspended in the houses of two Homeworkers because of infectious diseases.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY JAMES MORGAN,

Inspector of Nuisances

Hoton,

31st Dec., 1904.

